

## **The Virginia Deer Hunter's Association Scholarship Program Applicant / Student Instruction Sheet**

### **Purpose:**

To encourage and promote wildlife conservation and to recruit the next generation of wildlife professionals for the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond, The Virginia Deer Hunter's Association provides undergraduate and graduate-level grants-in-aid in order to support research efforts. Awards can be used to purchase equipment and supplies or to support research related travel costs, and for graduate student awards to provide financial supplements or additions to research stipends. Projects in Virginia, the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic region that investigate white-tailed deer ecology and habitat management or those that investigate issues of concern to sportsmen are encouraged; however, meritorious submissions on other terrestrial wildlife species, game or non-game are welcome.

### **Eligibility:**

- Students must be pursuing a degree at an accredited institution of higher education (i.e. Community College, Technical College, College or University or be participants in the DGIF Internship Program)
- Students must support the preservation of the hunting tradition.
- Students must demonstrate ability as a leader among his or her peers.
- Students must submit an essay exhibiting dedication to conservation (see application).
- Three letters of recommendation must be attached to the application (i.e. teacher, counselor, community leader)
- Applicants must submit applications to Scholarship Committee by May 31, 2016. Employees and Board Members of the VDHA and their family members are not eligible to participate in the program.

### **Selection Process:**

Applicants will submit applicant names and qualifications on an official VDHA scholarship application, along with required attachments to the Scholarship Committee by May 31, 2016.

### **Scholarship Levels:**

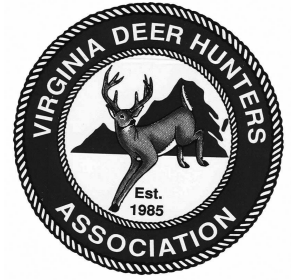
Five Scholarship winners will receive up to \$1,000.00.  
One Scholarship winner will receive up to \$2,500.00.

**Disbursement of Funds:**

Students may use their scholarship at any accredited institution of higher education (Community College, Technical College, College or University).

The VDHA will work with the student and the college financial aid officers in determining the payee when the check is issued. This will ensure the greater benefit to the recipient and avoid violation of eligibility requirements.

# Virginia Deer Hunter's Association



## Scholarship Program

### Instructions

1. Read the application information sheet carefully to determine eligibility before completing application.
2. Include your full name on the upper left corner of all pages, including attachments.
3. Make sure all portions of the application are complete and include all requested enclosures.  
**Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
4. Applicant must sign application.
5. Return this application to VDHA no later than **May 31<sup>st</sup>**.

**Return postmarked application no later than May 31<sup>st</sup> to:**

VDHA Scholarship  
Wayne Anderson  
P.O. Box 34746  
Richmond VA 23234-0746

Contact Number (540) 997-0051

### Part I: Application Information

*Please type or print.*

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_



**PART II: Extracurricular Activities**

*Securely attach additional sheets if necessary.*

List membership in school-related organizations (i.e. Honor Society, FFA, Beta Club, Science Club, Ecology Club, Student Council, etc.): If Applicable

List elected leadership positions held in high school, college, or organizations:

List any activity that demonstrates community leadership and involvement (i.e. Scouts, 4-H, civic group or club, volunteer work, etc.):

List any awards received for school or community involvement:

List job experience (i.e. after school, summer, etc.):

How did you learn about the VDHA Scholarship Program?



**PART III: School Information**

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_

Major Study Area: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART IV: Essay**

Write a brief essay describing your commitment to conservation and preserving our deer hunting heritage. Essay must be typewritten, double-space and should not exceed 500 words. Essay must include:

- why you will be a good investment if you are awarded this conservation scholarship
- any experiences and background that demonstrate your dedication to conservation and the preservation of our deer hunting heritage
- why hunting is important to you and your family

**PART V: Letter of Reference**

Include three letters of reference from teachers, counselors, community leaders or clergy (do not include relatives).

**PART IV: Required Enclosures**

Complete applications must include:

- official, sealed transcripts
- photo (minimum wallet size suitable for publication). Head shot only.

**PART VII: Counselor or Signature and Stats**

*To be completed by counselor or advisor*

Current Cumulative Grade point Average (unweighted) _____	
*If your school does not use a 4.0 scale, please calculate and convert GPA to a 4.0 scale.	
Applicant's rank in graduation class: _____ out of _____ (total number in class)	
<b>*Official, sealed transcripts are required.</b>	
_____ Signature of Guidance Counselor or Advisor	_____ Date

**PART VIII: Signature**

By signing this form, I hereby grant the VDHA the unconditional right to use my name, photograph and essay in connection with press releases and /or publications. I also certify that I have read and meet the eligibility requirements for the VDHA scholarship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

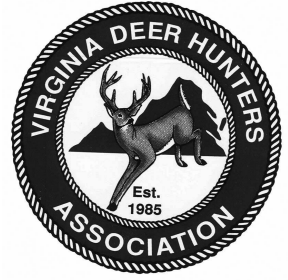


**Before mailing this application please check for the following:**

- I have completed the APPLICANT INFORMATION section
- I have completed the EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES section
- I have completed the SCHOOL INFORMATION section and acquired the signature of my guidance counselor or advisor
- I have enclosed my ESSAY
- I have enclosed three LETTERS OF REFERENCE
- I have enclosed OFFICIAL, SEALED TRANSCRIPTS
- I have enclosed a HEAD SHOT PHOTO of myself suitable for publication
- I have SIGNED MY APPLICATION
- I have read the APPLICANT/SCHOOL INFORMATION SHEET
- Return this application to the scholarship committee no later than May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please duplicate form as needed

## Virginia Deer Hunter's Association Scholarship Judging Form



How to use this form: The point system outlined on this form is used to judge scholarship applicants for the VDUA Scholarship. It provides a fair numerical system for ranking applicants on each criterion and will help anticipate how your local winner will compare at the ????????. Have a small committee of three to five members review and score each application.

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT'S NAME

Judging Criteria	Description	Maximum Points	Total Points
<b>Active in school related organizations</b> ( i.e. Honor Society, FFA, Beta Club, Science Club, Ecology Club, Student Council, etc.):	1-3 pts. - Active 4-5 pts. - Very Active	5	
<b>Elected leadership position in school or community related clubs or organizations</b>	1-3 pts. - Held one leadership position 4-5 pts. - Held more than one leadership position	5	
<b>Demonstrates community involvement</b> (i.e. Scouts, 4-H, civic group or club, volunteer work, etc.):	1-3 pts. - Active 4-5 pts. - Very Active	5	
Awards received for school or community	1-3 pts. - Received one award 4-5 pts. -Received more than one award	5	
Grade Point Average	<b>GPA requirements</b> Award 5 points for 3.0 average on a 4.0 scale (or see conversion chart for equivalent) and 1 point for every tenth over (i.e. 3.1 = 6 pts.) <b>Conversion scale</b> If transcript indicates a scale other than 4.0 students must have a minimum of: 3.75 on a <b>5.0</b> scale, <b>4.5/6.0</b> , <b>5.25/7.0</b> , <b>6.0/8.0</b> , <b>6.75/9.0</b> or <b>7.5/10.5</b>	15	
References	1-6 pts. - Average 7-13 pts. - Above Average 14-20 pts. - Outstanding	20	
College and /or College Prep Courses taken	1-3 pts. - one or more courses 4-5 pts. -taken several courses	5	
<b>Essay</b> Content <u>Why hunting is important to applicant</u> <u>Commitment to conservation exhibited</u> Why applicant would be a good investment <u>Overall Presentation</u> <u>Quality of writing, grammar and spelling</u>	  1-10 pts. 1-10 pts. 1-10 pts.  1-10 pts.	40	
<b>GRAND TOTAL POINTS</b>		<b>100 pts.</b>	